



**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED  
EXAMINING GROUP 1711  
PATENT**

Attorney Docket No. 3327-2329

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Susumu Hoshi et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1711  
)  
Application No.: 10/512,410 ) Examiner: Jeffrey C. Mullis  
)  
Filed: October 25, 2004 ) Confirmation No.: 4613  
)  
For: Block Copolymer and Composition ) Mail Stop AF  
Thereof )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

The following is in reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 29, 2006, the period for response having been extended to December 29, 2006 by a request for extension of three months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith.

In the Office Action of June 29, 2006 the Examiner continued to reject claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Knoll.

A limitation in applicants' claims is that in the block copolymer, "40-80% by weight of the vinyl aromatic hydrocarbon polymer blocks have a molecular weight of 35,000 or less." In contrast, as argued in the last Reply, in Knoll's block copolymer 100% by weight of the vinyl aromatic hydrocarbon polymer blocks have a molecular weight of 35,000 or less. The Examiner disagrees, arguing that "block" does not